



\*\*\*\*\*

BOROUGH OF WENLOCK URBAN DISTRICT

R E P O R T

- of the -

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

- for the year -

1 9 2 5.

\*\*\*\*\*







BOROUGH of WENLOCK URBAN DISTRICT.

R E P O R T of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1925.  
-----

The Annual Report for 1925 is, by direction of the Ministry of Health, to be a Survey Report. A Survey Report is called for at intervals of five years, and differs from the intervening modified Annual Reports in dealing more comprehensively with important changes in the public health services during the period, and generally as to the progress of improvement of the public health.

NATURAL and SOCIAL CONDITIONS of the AREA.

Area (Acres). 22,657.

Population (Census 1921) 13,714. (Estimated 1925) 13,760.

The District comprises 22,522 acres, exclusive of water, being the largest Borough in area in the country. This area is of very irregular outline, but is, roughly, some ten miles in greatest length, from north to south west, and has a mean breadth of some four miles, being narrowest where the Severn, traversing the District from west to east, makes a natural division, the part lying to the south of the river, having three or four times the area of the northern part, though with less than half the population.

The District is for the most part a tableland lying at an elevation of from 400 to 660 feet or more; the Severn forming a deep cutting through this elevated land, its banks rising very steeply on either side from about 150 feet O.D. at the water level to the general height of about 500 feet O.D. The central and eastern part, nearly half the area, lies upon the coal measures. To the west the formation is the Wenlock and Ludlow beds of Silurian age, forming a considerable part of the southern division and extending also to a limited extent across the river in the northern division. Much of this ground lies in ridges with intervening valleys at a height of from 600 to 800 feet. At the southern extremity the old sandstone occurs. The natural drainage is to the Severn, by small streams falling as a rule steeply into the river within the District, but the southern part of the southern area drains to the south by small streams which meet the Severn some distance outside the District.

The District is, in its northern and eastern parts, an old industrial area having been one of the earliest centres of iron working with coal fuel. Coal mining and iron smelting have in recent years been relinquished. The Engineering works of the Coalbrookdale Co., and the works of the Liverpool Refrigeration Co., in Coalbrookdale, and the Court Engineering Works in Madeley, employ a large number. There is also at Madeley a large Brick and Tile Works, and most of those employed at the Kemberton Coal pits, outside the District, reside in Madeley.

The Works of The Coalport China Co., established over a century ago, at Coalport, will now be shut down, the business being removed during the present year to the Potteries District, where it will be carried on.

The works of Messrs Maw, and Messrs Craven, Dunhill, on the River Bank in Broseley Ward, carry on a large manufacture of Encaustic tiles, and there are several roofing tile works also in Broseley Ward doing a large business; one or two small coalpits in connection with these are worked.

The greater part of the Southern area is entirely rural and agricultural; and thinly populated. Lime stone quarrying and burning on a considerable scale is carried on near Wenlock.







For purposes of local administration the Borough is divided into four wards, each having a separate Sanitary Committee acting as the Sanitary Authority. These wards, with their area, population, and general character are as follows:-

Ward.	Area in Acres.	Census Population,		Situation.	General Character.
		1911.	1921.		
Madeley ..	2797	8121	7398	North of Severn.	Urban & Industrial.
Broseley ..	1962	3663	3037	South of Severn.	Urban & Industrial Brick and Tile.
Much Wenlock..	8751	2148	1991	South of Severn.	Agricultural.
Barrow ..	9012	1312	1288	Both sides of Severn.	Agricultural.

From the 1911 Census to that of 1921 the population of the Borough declined by 1530 persons; and the fall in the Wards was:- Madeley 723, Broseley 626, Wenlock 157, Barrow 24. In the ten years 1901-11 the decline in population in the Borough was 622, the Urban parts again showing the heavier fall. Since 1921 there has been no marked estimated decline.

Number of inhabited houses (1921). 3359.

Number of families or separate occupiers (1921). 3374.

Rateable Value. £49,806.

Sum represented by a penny rate. £208.

	Total.	M.	F.	
Births. ( Legitimate	260	130	130	) Birth Rate. 20.0
	( Illegitimate	16	6	10 )
Deaths.	197	93	104	Death Rate. 14.3

Number of women dying in consequence of Childbirth:-

From sepsis 1; from other causes nil.

Deaths of infants under one year per 1,000 births:-

Legitimate 58; Illegitimate 187; Total 65.

Deaths from Measles (all ages) 2.

" " Whooping Cough (all ages) 1.

" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age). 1.

Wenlock U.D. England & Wales.

Birth rate per 1,000 of population	20.0	18.3
Death rate " " " "	14.3	12.2
Infant death rate per 1,000 born	65.	75.







The birth rate was higher than in the two previous years, and the same figure as the average for the past 5 years.

The death rate was rather lower than in 1924, and was about the average for the District for the past 5 years. Measles caused 2 deaths, Whooping Cough 1, Scarlet fever 3, pulmonary tuberculosis 7, other tuberculous disease 4, Cancer 21, Pneumonia 10.

The infant death rate was higher than in 1923 or 1924, but is well below the rate for the Country generally; twelve of the total of 18 infant deaths were from causes classed under Congenital debility.

The following table gives comparative figures for the five year period 1921-25.

	<u>Wenlock U.D.</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales.</u>
Birth rate per 1,000 of population	20.0	21.4
Death rate " " " "	13.8	12.2
Infant death rate per 1,000 born	56.5	77.

The progressive decline in Infant Mortality is a satisfactory feature in the Public health. It is especially marked since Infant Welfare Work was begun. The average figures for preceding periods in the Borough were:- 1901-06 - 102; 1907-1914 - 85; 1915-19 - 71.

#### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES of the AREA.

Hospitals. Tuberculosis. Those available are the Shirlett Sanatorium for early cases, (situated in the Barrow Ward of the Borough). Prees Heath Hospital, for advanced cases, and the Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital, at Oswestry, for surgical cases.

Children. County Council's Babies Home at Wellington.

For Small-pox the Borough has an iron Hospital building at The Batches, Broseley. The accommodation is for four persons of each sex. It is only partly furnished and is unstaffed, but is occupied as a dwelling and well kept, and can be utilised in a few hours should need arise.

Maternity cases are admitted to the Lady Forrester Hospital, Broseley, which also serves as a General Hospital for the Borough.

Isolation of fever cases. Arrangements, such as I have advised, have now been made for the reception of cases into the Shrewsbury & Atcham Joint Isolation Hospital when special circumstances may appear to the M.O.H. to make such removal necessary.

Ambulance Facilities. The County Council's motor ambulance is available for non-infectious and accident cases.

Clinics and Treatment Centres. The Ironbridge and District Child Welfare Centre is supported by the Local Authority, but is provided by a Voluntary Association, with assistance from Government grant and the County Council. The Centre is in Ironbridge, in a house acquired and equipped for the purpose. This Centre continues to do most excellent work and to secure consistently large attendances of mothers and infants. During the year the attendances were as follows:-

Total attendances 5427. Average attendance 108.

This is also a County Council local centre for orthopaedic work in connection with the Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital and also a dental clinic for school children.

The County Dispensaries for Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases, in Shrewsbury, are available.



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2018 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29805533>



Public Health Officers. The Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector, the latter being a whole time officer for the Borough, the former being whole time M.O.H. for the South West Salop combined Districts. Salary contributions are received by Exchequer grant.

Nursing Arrangements, etc. General. District Nursing is provided by the Lady Forester Charity Trust, in the Urban areas.

Infectious Disease. The County Council provides for health visiting and nursing in cases of measles, whooping cough, pneumonia and ophthalmia neonatorum, in children under 5 years, where necessary.

Midwives. None are employed or subsidised by the Local Authority. There are some seven practising in the District, including one midwife provided and maintained in Madeley Ward by the Child Welfare Committee.

#### ADOPTIVE ACTS, etc.

The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act 1890 was adopted in 1898. The Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act 1890 (except Part IV) and parts 2, 3, 4, and 5, of the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act 1907 have also been adopted, previous to 1914.

Bye-laws were made in 1905 in respect to:- Common Lodging Houses and Slaughter houses.

Regulations as to Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops were adopted in 1905.

#### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES of the AREA.

Water Supply. Madeley and Broseley Wards are supplied by a joint public scheme, from the deep well and boring at Harrington outside the District. There is a Joint Water Committee and a Water Engineer in charge. The supply is constant and of excellent quality. It is laid on to houses or to convenient standpipes. During the past five years extensions of mains and of service pipes have been made as required, and in 1921, a loan of £10,000 was sanctioned, after enquiry, for the renewal of the pumping plant.

Much Wenlock. The Town public supply, from a well in the Linden Field, with power pump, reservoir and mains, and laid on to the houses has for many years proved inadequate to provide a constant supply in the summer months. Schemes for additional supply have been investigated. In 1921 application was made for a loan to develop a spring known as the Stretton Road Spout. Approval was deferred pending further bacteriological analysis, but in 1922 the Committee abandoned the Scheme as the gaugings that year fell to so low a point as to be considered inadequate. The Committee then, in 1923, investigated the source of some springs outcropping in the Abbey Park. The Surveyor made excavations and showed a number of springs available for collection. Arrangements for water rights were agreed with the owner, and chemical and bacteriological examination showed the water to be good and uncontaminated. In 1924 official sanction was given for a loan and the work put in hand. It was completed last year. The springs are collected into a well and pumped to the town reservoir. The estimated yield is 40,000 gallons per diem, and a constant supply has since been maintained to the town.

In the rural parts of Wenlock Ward, and in Barrow Ward, the supply is generally from individual wells or springs. The question of improved supply to a group of 22 houses at New Works in Little Wenlock parish, of which 10 houses are within the Borough and 12 in Wellington R.D., came before the Barrow Sanitary Committee







in 1923. In some cases water had to be carried a distance of a mile or more. It appeared that water could be laid on to a stand pipe within a quarter mile of the houses, from the high level reservoir of the Dawley U.D.C. Water works, whose supply is from the Borough's Harrington system. The question was considered by the Wellington R.D. & Barrow Sanitary Committee, but no action has resulted up to the present.

Stream Pollution. Untreated sewage, chiefly of slop water character, reaches the Severn direct in the Ironbridge area, and by tributary small streams from Coalbrookdale, Madeley, and Broseley. The river here has good flow and nuisance due to accumulation at the sewer outlets is not often found. A survey of the river carried out in June of last year, organised by the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries, showed no diminution in dissolved oxygen in the water at Ironbridge or below, indicating that the volume of sewage compared with that of the river is insufficient to cause de-oxygenation of the water to an extent injurious to fish and plant life.

Sewerage and Drainage. The town of Much Wenlock is sewered on modern lines, with outfall works, but in the other Urban areas the sewers are of old construction, partly piped, part brick culverts, old road water drains, and in some parts surface channels, the outfalls being into the river or various streams as a general rule. Sewerage Schemes were under consideration some 12 to 15 years ago under official suggestion, in Madeley and Broseley Wards, but were found by the Committees not to be possible at a reasonable cost, or such as these low rated areas could bear.

I am glad to note that during the past five years both in Madeley and Broseley, some progress has been made in laying lengths of sewer, either of extension, or replacement of old defective sewers, or in piping lengths of offensive open drains. These have constituted distinct sanitary improvements, and I strongly recommend that this work be carried on steadily year by year, towards a permanent improvement of existing unsatisfactory conditions.

Natural surface drainage is generally good in the district and the drainage of individual houses is as a rule carried away.

During last year 490 yards of sewer were laid by the Borough Surveyor as follows:-

Broseley and Barrow Wards: the piping in of part of Benthall brook which forms the boundary of the two Wards. 140 yards of 18 inch pipe were laid to take sewage and storm water.

In Broseley also 80 yards were laid to pipe in an offensive ditch, and 120 yards for the drainage of the newly built Council houses.

In Madeley 100 yards were laid for the drainage of the new Council houses.

In Coalbrookdale 50 yards for the drainage of several houses previously discharging on the roadside water channel.

Closest accommodation. The great majority of the houses have privies of the old vault type. The number of closets of each type has not been ascertained. In the past five years some 35 privies have been converted into W.C's, chiefly in Much Wenlock where there is efficient modern sewerage.

In the other Urban areas I would urge that with progress in the improvement of the sewers, and where proper sewers serve, pressure should be brought to bear for the conversion of privies into W.C's. The abolition of numbers of filthy underground receptacles, especially where they are within a few feet of dwelling houses is a definite sanitary need.

Scavenging. The Madeley Sanitary Committee undertakes the scavenging of privies in the Ward, and also the weekly removal of house refuse, the work being done by contract. This regular removal of house refuse has led to great improvement in the condition of house yards. As regards privies, complaint, though less frequent, is still occasionally received of undue delay in scavenging, resulting in closets becoming overfull and leaking on the closet floor or yard surface, a







condition constituting not only offensive nuisance, but a danger to health. Every care should be taken to obviate this danger by further improving or increasing the scavenging system.

During the past 5 years steps have been taken for the removal of many of the large accumulations of ashes and house refuse from the neighbourhood of houses. Special contracts for this purpose were made,

The following is an Account furnished by the Sanitary Inspector, of Sanitary Work for the Year,

Number of houses which have been inspected during the above period, either in connection with outbreaks of infectious disease, or in consequence of complaints, or in the course of a systematic Sanitary Survey (including inspections under Housing, Town Planning Act).	-	1167
Number of legal notices sent	-	22
Number of informal notices sent	-	133
Number of such notices complied with	-	97
Number of letters written	-	611

PARTICULARS OF SANITARY MATTERS REFERRED TO IN THE ABOVE NOTICES;

(a) Houses to be disinfected after Infectious Disease	1
(b) Deficient or objectionable water supply	1
(c) New drains to be constructed or old drains to be amended	42
(d) New closets to be provided or old ones to be amended in construction	57
(e) Houses damp or dirty, or admitting rain, or weather, or otherwise in a bad sanitary condition	75
(f) Offensive accumulations of all kinds	60
(g) Animals so kept as to be a nuisance	3
(h) Houses overcrowded	13

---

Houses disinfected after infectious disease (other than phthisis)	87
Houses disinfected in cases of phthisis	7
Privies converted to water closets	8
Privies converted to earth closets	-
Plans for new houses passed	16
Houses connected to public water supply	44
Repairs to public pumps and wells	1
New public wells	-
Private wells re-constructed or improved	-
Houses connected to public sewerage	14
Lengths of new sewers laid	490 yds.
Lengths of new water mains laid	167 yds.
Lengths of new water service pipes laid	294 yds.

Proceedings before Magistrates: Nil.

HARRY HERBERT.  
Inspector of Nuisances.







General Housing Conditions. The District being in its main centres an old industrial district, with a declining population, there has been little or no building of cottages during the present century. Of the old houses a considerable proportion is in the matters of air space or of conditions of structure and convenience, below standard, and among the older part of these some are in a state of progressive decay.

Overcrowding. Thirty-three cases of overcrowding have been dealt with by the Inspector's notices in the past 5 years. Overcrowding other than that of large and growing families in small houses is not frequently met with. The Census of 1921 showed a definite improvement over that of 1911 in the matter of 'Overcrowding!'

Repairs to old houses, so far as desirable structural additions, or extensive replacements, are concerned, are often found impossible owing to the low rental value. Work necessary to maintain houses in a weathertight condition and in other main essentials habitable is enforced.

With the decline of population many of the worst of the houses have gone out of occupation, and though the standard of housing is low rents are also very low, and there are no closely built areas, houses generally having good air space around. There is no definite shortage of houses but no excess, habitable houses being fully occupied, and the provision of a number of new houses, if provided within the means of wage earners, would be a marked advantage. It is satisfactory to record a start now made in municipal housing, 16 having been erected during the year, with State assistance, viz: 8 in Much Wenlock, 4 in Madeley, and 4 in Broseley, by the respective Sanitary Committees. The following notes by the Sanitary Inspector are of interest, in this new departure, and it is clear that an extended measure of building would do much to raise the housing standard.

Mr. Herbert says:- "Excellent sites were secured. The houses are all of the parlour type, with three bedrooms and W.C. also with bath, lavatory and sink provided with hot and cold water.

Soft water for washing purposes is provided from a tank receiving all the roof water which is discharged from a tap over the wash house boiler. This is a very useful provision, as the main town supply is somewhat hard.

The houses are well built, in pairs well spaced, of nicely toned bricks with Broseley tiled roofs, and with very large windows and ample means of ventilation. Gas and water is also laid on to all the houses. They are of pleasing design, with hipped roofs, and the Much Wenlock houses have, at the front, square bay windows upstairs and down.

Altogether, the houses are considerably above the average, in every respect of many schemes of Municipal housing in the country.

They are also let at a very reasonable rent, considering the class and quality of the house, viz: 7/6 per week, plus rates.

In each locality the number of applicants for tenancy exceeded the number of houses provided, and in Much Wenlock the appreciation by the public of the houses already provided, is marked and the demand for more houses is insistent and the Council is contemplating the erection of six or eight more houses in Much Wenlock in the immediate future.

In Madeley and Broseley the industrial situation is somewhat uncertain at the moment and the Councils have paused to consider the position before proceeding with further schemes of building.

One of the Madeley houses has been sold to the occupier."

By a recent return it appears that since 1919, 16 houses have been built by Municipal action, and 11 by private persons, a total of 27. The number fallen out of use in the same period is returned as 15 closed by the local Authority and 3 closed voluntarily, a total of 18. Most of the Closing Orders were in respect of ruined houses long uninhabited and with a view to their demolition.







Number of new houses erected during the year:-

(a) Total	-	-	19
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts:			
(i) By the Local Authority	-	-	16
(ii) By other bodies or persons	-	-	3

1. Unfit dwelling houses.

Inspection - (1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	979
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1925, or the Housing Consolidated Regs. 1925.	22
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	2
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	133

2. Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	87
---	----

3. Action under Statutory Powers.

A.- Proceedings under section 3 of the Housing Act 1925.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	22
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit:-	
(a) by owners	12
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	2

B.- Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	133
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied:-	
(a) by owners	97
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

C.- Proceedings under sections 11, 14, & 15, of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	2
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	2
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil







## INSPECTION and SUPERVISION of FOOD.

### Inspection of Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops for the Year.

Number of cowkeepers and milksellers on register			47
Number of premises - cowsheds	-	-	44
dairies	-	-	44
milkshops	-	-	3
Number of inspections	-	-	44
Defects found (1) in cowsheds -			
(a) floor or cubic space	-	-	-
(b) ventilation	-	-	2
(c) lighting	-	-	2
(d) structure of floor	-	-	1
(e) drainage	-	-	2
(f) cleanliness	-	-	6
(2) in surroundings of cowsheds	-	-	7
(3) in sanitary condition of drains	-	-	2
(4) in sanitary condition of milkshops	-	-	-
(5) in water supply	-	-	-
Number of notices - verbal and written	-	-	15
Number of these notices complied with	-	-	11
Number of defects found and not yet remedied	-	-	4

-----

HARRY HERBERT.

Inspector of Nuisances.

No action was taken as to tuberculous milk and tuberculous cattle.

No refusal or revocation of registration of retailers was found necessary.

No applications have been received for licences for sale of milk under special designations.

The Sanitary Inspector remarks:- "An effort was made during the year to further the movement for obtaining a "Clean Milk Supply" by co-operating with the Milk Publicity Council and holding demonstrations in various parts of the Borough as to the best methods of obtaining a clean milk supply. The demonstrations were arranged in different parts of this very extensive Borough so as to facilitate the attendance of milk producers and sellers.

The results however, were disappointing, as in Much Wenlock, where 25 invitations were sent out, 14 persons attended. At Madeley 28 invitations were sent out and only 7 persons attended, including 2 employed on the premises; while at Broseley where 23 were invited to see and hear something pertaining to their business, not one turned up.

Such apathy is much to be regretted, as the advice and demonstrations given by Mr. Smellie of the Milk Publicity Council and his assistant, were very instructive and practical and could not fail to benefit those present."







Meat. "The Inspector reports:- Visits are made as far as possible to slaughterhouses at time of slaughter, but as practically all the butchers slaughter at the same time, to suit their week end trade, it is obviously impossible in this very extensive Borough to visit more than a small proportion, which must be in the same locality, at the time of slaughter. 179 such visits were made during the year, in addition to a number of visits to cottages where occasionally pork pigs were killed for sale.

No arrangements are made for marking meat, nor are such arrangements practicable in this district.

There is a general willingness on the part of the butchers to comply with the Meat Regulations, 1924. There are no outside stalls in this district, where meat is sold and there was only one butchers shop which was not provided with a glass front; this has now been provided.

153 lbs. of pork and 34 lbs. of mutton were surrendered and destroyed as unfit for consumption.

14 lbs. of dried fish was also destroyed as unfit.

Bakehouses are periodically inspected and where limewashing is required, a verbal notice is generally sufficient to get this done. Other places where food is prepared are visited at intervals and where cleansing or limewashing is required, a verbal notice generally suffices."

		<u>In 1920.</u>	<u>In Jan. 1925.</u>	<u>In Dec. 1925.</u>
Number of Private ) Slaughterhouses. )	Registered	13	13	13
	Licensed	7	7	9
	Total	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>22</u>

Sale of Food & Drugs Act. During the year samples were taken for analysis as follows:-

<u>Nature of Sample.</u>	<u>No. of samples.</u>	<u>Genuine.</u>	<u>Adulterated.</u>	<u>Remarks.</u>
Milk	25	24	1	% Proceed- ings pending.
Beer	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>	
Total	<u>28</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>1</u>	

% In this case the milk was found to contain 35 parts of sediment per 100,000, of which three quarters appeared to be dung. Action was taken in the Wenlock Petty Sessions Court on Jan. 26th 1926, and a conviction obtained, the penalty with costs amounting to £13 : 9 : 7.

Two of the beer samples were returned as 'Free from Arsenic.' In the third case arsenic was present to the extent of 1/500 grain per gallon, thus being much below the allowed amount of 1/100 grain per gallon.

Milk & Cream Regulations, 1912. The milk samples were all examined for presence of preservative and reported free.

#### PREVALENCE OF, and CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Laboratory Work. Bacteriological examinations are provided for by the County Council in arrangement with Birmingham University, free of cost to the District. The facilities are in general use for the diagnosis of Diphtheria, Enteric fever, and Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Diphtheria Antitoxin is supplied by the Sanitary Committee, free of cost to cases of the poorer class, through local chemists







who supply medical men upon request. Antitoxin is in general use in all but very slight cases.

In accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Health's Memorandum of July, 1922, the chemists contracting have been instructed to hold and supply Antitoxin in phials containing 8,000 units for treatment and 500 units for prophylactic purposes.

The following table shows the incidence of Scarlet fever and Diphtheria during the past 5 years as affecting each Ward.

	1921.		1922.		1923.		1924.		1925.	
	S.F.	Diph.	S.F.	Diph.	S.F.	Diph.	S.F.	Diph.	S.F.	Diph.
Madeley	3	29	42	16	-	-	9	9	33	4
Broseley	-	-	-	1	8	2	-	6	37	16
Wenlock	1	-	1	-	1	-	2	3	-	-
Barrow	3	1	4	2	1	-	-	1	3	-
Total	7	30	47	19	10	2	11	19	73	20

This table shows the total number of cases and deaths for the Borough and for each Ward for the whole 5 year period 1921-25.

	Population 1921.	Cases notified.		Deaths.	
		Sc. Fever	Diphtheria.	Sc. Fever.	Diph.
Madeley Ward	7398	87	58	2	1
Broseley "	3037	45	25	1	-
Wenlock "	1991	5	3	-	-
Barrow "	1288	11	4	1	-
Total	13714	148	90	4	1

Both Scarlet fever and diphtheria show a heavier incidence both actually, and relatively to population, in the Urban and Industrial areas of Madeley and Broseley, than in the agricultural and thinly populated Wenlock and Barrow Wards. The freedom of Much Wenlock over a period of more than this five year period has been notable. The death rate from Scarlet fever in the Borough has been 2.7 per cent of cases notified. That from Diphtheria 1.1 per cent of cases notified, indicating in general the slight character of this disease during the period, and also the good use made of Antitoxin treatment, and the detection of slight cases by bacteriological examination.

One case of Encephalitis Lethargica was notified in 1924 and two in 1925. Recent enquiry recently showed the cases to have made good recovery so far.

Three cases of Polio-encephalitis were notified during the five years. One in 1923 was rapidly fatal, the second, in 1924, recovered; the third, in 1925, died from Puerperal fever some three weeks later.

Malaria. Two cases occurred in 1921 in ex-soldiers who contracted infection abroad, and three cases of indigenous origin were notified in 1922 in Coalport area where three similar cases







in one family occurred in 1919. Subsequently an old canal dead-end which was the chief breeding place of the Anophele mosquito was drained and filled in and no further case has occurred.

Dysentery. Five cases of Flexner type were notified in Broseley in two related families in 1923, in one of whom cases had occurred in 1920. It appeared to be a case of revived, or 'Carrier' infection. Due precautions were taken. The type was not severe, but verified bacteriologically, and all recovered.

### Notifiable Diseases during the Year.

Disease	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to hospital.	Total Deaths.
Small-pox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	73	-	3
Diphtheria	20	-	-
Enteric fever (including Paratyphoid)	-	-	-
Puerperal fever	1	-	1
Pneumonia	1	-	10
Erysipelas	5	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	2	-	-
Acute Polio-encephalitis	1	-	-

Scarlet fever it will be seen showed greater prevalence last year both in Madeley and Broseley. Cases occurred throughout the year except during April, November and December, and with no periods of marked epidemic spread. Precautions were taken at all notified houses and through the schools. In October the outbreak diminished and before the end of the year had died out.

Diphtheria. The majority of cases occurred in Broseley Ward, at various times during the year. The disease was mild and no special features call for comment.

### Tuberculosis.

Age-Periods.		New Cases.				Deaths.			
		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	1
10	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
20	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
25	-	3	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
35	-	1	1	-	1	1	1	-	-
45	-	2	1	-	1	-	1	-	1
55	-	3	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Totals		13	6	3	5	3	4	1	3

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cases				Vision un-impaired.	Vision im-paired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
	Notified	Treated						
		At home.	In Hospital.					
1	1	-	1	-	-	-		

M. GEPP.

22nd November, 1926.

Medical Officer of Health.







Building of New Houses. For many years no building of Working class dwellings took place, but in 1923 eight houses were completed. The position since the Census of 1921 is as follows:-

Since June 1921.

No. of houses completed under Ministry of Health	
Scheme ..	Nil
" " " " by private enterprise..	<u>9</u>
Total	<u>9</u>

Of the 9 houses 5 were made by conversion of a range of offices into satisfactory dwellings. During last year plans were adopted by the several Committees for the erection of a few houses in the various Wards, as a public scheme with State assistance.

Repairs to old Houses. The foregoing return shows a considerable amount of work done in connection with routine inspection. Where so much of the cottage property is very old, as in the Borough generally, and there has been no replacement by new buildings, regular inspection and enforcement of repair work is essential.

M. GEPP.

Medical Officer of Health.

28th November, 1925.



...of the ...  
...the ...  
...the ...

...of ...  
...  
...  
...  
...

...of the ...  
...the ...  
...the ...  
...the ...

...to the ...  
...the ...  
...the ...  
...the ...

...  
...

...